

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-01 ACDA-07 OMB-01 /063 W

-----012119 092046 /41

R 011325Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4398

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0166

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: SEQUEL TO TRUCK HIJACKING

REF: ASMARA 0160 (DTG 280945Z FEB 77)

1. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE INSURGENT HIJACKING OF LOADED TRUCKS IN THE EARLY MORNING OF FEB 28 (REFTEL), INDICATES THAT AS MANY AS 15 TRUCKS WERE STOLEN FROM TWO LOCATIONS IN ASMARA. THREE OF THESE TRUCKS WERE ABANDONED AS ROADBLOCKS FOR PURSUERS, AND THE REMAINDER WERE TAKEN TO A REBEL POSITION OFF THE KEREN ROAD. THE TRUCKS CONTAINED GRAIN, FLOUR, BOLTS OF TEXTILE, RUBBER SHOES AND SEVERAL THOUSAND AUTOMOTIVE BATTERIES.

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2. AS A PRECAUTION AGAINST A REPETITION OF THIS INCIDENT, EPMG AUTHORITIES HAVE INSTRUCTED TRUCK OPERATORS THAT ALL TRUCKS LOADED WITH SUPPLIES FOR THE MILITARY MUST BE ASSEMBLED AT THE EXPO MILITARY CAMP, AND THERE PLACED IN THE CUSTODY OF EPMG TROOPS. THERE HAS BEEN AN OBSERVABLE INCREASE IN THE SECURITY AROUND EXPO IN THE LAST 24 HOURS.

3. AS AN ADJUNCT TO THE TRANSPORTATION SITUATION, THE APPARENTLY  
ONCE-WEEKLY MASSAWA CONVOY RETURNED TO ASMARA WITHOUT INCIDENT  
ON MARCH 1. WE ARE CONTINUING TO MONITOR THE MASSAWA CONVOY SCHEDULE  
AS THE EXISTING ONCE-WEEKLY FREQUENCY HAS A MARKEDLY ADVERSE  
IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY, AS WELL AS AFFORDING AN INSIGHT INTO THE  
EPMG MILITARY'S WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE ESCORT TROOPS.  
SLUTZ

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, TRUCKS, THEFTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ASMARA00166  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SEQUEL TO TRUCK HIJACKING  
**TAGS:** PINS, ET  
**To:** STATE ADDIS ABABA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009